

Chairman's Report April 2020

Twelve months have gone by and what a change in our community. Covid-19 has resulted in lock downs, face masks, social distancing and much more. Some things have not changed, roadworks on the A20 and yet more housing.

We have been made aware of a review of the Borough Council's Local Plan and, at the time of writing this report, 16 landowners have put their land forward for development. Early decisions on these first parcels will be made later in the year. Also, we are neighbouring one of the most contentious planning applications in our lifetime; the garden village at Lenham Heath. This is in the early stages, but the Parish Council is likely to be heavily involved in the ramifications.

Additionally, and as reported heavily in the local media, we are supporting the local Pre-School in their attempts to find a new home. This has been challenging but hopefully, in conjunction with the Booth and Baldwin Trust, the new Pre-School aspirations will be achieved.

I am delighted to introduce our latest Councillor, Sandra (Sasha) Luck. We are now back to full strength on the Parish Council.

From the comfort of our front rooms it has been an extremely busy time, but we all look forward to the time when we can sit round the table again. Parish Council meetings of all sorts have been suspended and delegated powers passed to our excellent Parish Clerk Amanda Broadhurst and equal praise should also be applied to our RFO Mike Cuerden.

Lastly, I would like to give a special mention to all Councillors, our Community Warden Martin Sherwood and the residents who are currently part of the Harrietsham & Lenham Covid Team. Their work has made a real difference to our community and in many cases the team has put residents before themselves. Amazing people to have in a wonderful village!

Until next year I wish you and you and your families the best of health.

Cllr Eddie Powell
Chairman